

The Blessing of Pressure

"Write and pray your worries away." That's a pretty good motto once you understand it. It daily works wonders for many and may even help you. I learned it from a university senior when a freshman.

I was cramming for an English test. My observing friend could tell from the muddled look that I was not only not studying, but worrying. When he asked what the trouble was, I said, "I've got that big final in English tomorrow and I'm praying for the rapture tonight." "So what's the problem?" he asked. "The problem is—the Lord may not come in time!" was my bright answer. He then said, "Let me give you my million dollar secret: Write down in black and white everything you're worrying about. Put them all down, little troubles and big troubles. Then write on top of the list—'What difference will it make in 100 years?' Go to bed. First thing in the morning, get out your list, read it, and you'll have to laugh at yourself. But the burdens which still remain, turn into prayer requests and God will make a way."

Ten years later I must admit that that lesson has done me more good than a lot of required courses—and it's more needed on the mission field than in school. In fact, the ability to laugh at yourself, take things in stride, write and pray your worries away and keep on keeping on, these qualities are so important that they may make or break a good missionary. These are the qualities that separate the men from the boys, the effective leader and the fumbling fellow who never really gets his desk cleared off once a term.

I'm always amazed at how much some of the busiest people I know are able to accomplish. You can always count on them. Just like the old saying "If you want to get something done . . . ask a busy man." Others always plead the "I'm too busy" line. We need to beware of muddling in so much unimportant trivia that we never really sit down long enough to ask God just what we're doing here. Let's clarify our primary objectives and then organize ourselves into a Spirit-led daily routine.

Being editor of this quarterly proves to me one fact: If it were not for pressure and deadlines, three-fourths of the articles would never be written. Come to think about it, all of life is one big deadline from dawn to dusk, breakfast to supper, birth to death. Schools are organized around deadline bells. Let's face it, if it weren't for the blessing of pressure we'd do so much less but, when the seemingly impossible faces us, we see the Lord Jesus take over. And we'd also just keep on putting off till tomorrow what we should and could do today. However in all work, let's keep before us the Big Final Deadline for His "Well done."

—Japan Harvest.

News and Notes

Atlantic, Iowa. Friends of Nellie Faye and Raymond Hagberg will be glad to know of their safe arrival in Tanganyika, East Africa. They made the trip by air going first to London. They arrived in Nairobi July 24 and from there by bus to their station at Moshi. They are now studying the language at Mivika Bible School on the slopes of Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Cedar Falls, Iowa. Pastor Lyle Kohler has been the assistant for the past year at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa. On the eve of July 20, at Nazareth, Pastor and Mrs. Kohler were commissioned as missionaries to serve in the mission field in Sudan Africa.

The commissioning service was conducted by Pastor N. B. Hansen of Poy-sippi, Wisconsin. Other pastors participating were Harold Olesen of West Liberty, Iowa, D. L. Buchheim of Waterloo, Iowa, M. G. Christensen of Cedar Falls and Nazareth's own pastor, Homer Larsen.

Messages of inspiration and encouragement were given by Pastors Larsen and Hansen. Musical inspiration was offered by the Jr. and Sr. Choirs singing "To God All Glory" and "Praise the Lord O My Soul" respectively. Two young people from the congregation, Sherry Meyer and Larry Fogdall sang "Lord Send Us."

The congregation had a reception in the church parlors following the commissioning. Among the guests were several pastors who were asked to express a few informal comments to the honored.

Pastor Kohler, in all humility, asked for our prayers to strengthen him and his wife as they go to Africa as ambassadors for Christ.

"The Word Goes Forth" a Summary of U.E.L.C. Foreign Missions, published jointly by the W.M.S. and Board of Foreign Missions 1957 has a complete catalogue of all Visual Aid material available covering our Foreign Mission Fields. All Sunday Schools and other organizations of our Church are invited to avail themselves of this little Booklet from Lutheran Publishing House, cost fifty cents, you will find it very helpful in planning your Rally Day Service and other programs for your fall schedule. Three new sets of slides have recently been made available covering the Sudan mission. These are secured directly from Pastor N. B. Hansen, Poy Sippi, Wis. Acquaint the children with the Mission work of our Church, that some may heed the Tap on the shoulder and "Go Tell."

Mrs. Elmer Christensen,
Visual Aid Director

Whittier, Calif. Verner N. Carlsen, Pastor. A new educational unit for St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 11345 Miller Road, is off the drawing boards and bound for bidding in the near future. The new building will increase the Sunday School classroom space by eight. These cubicles will be divided by curtains, in order that one large room will be available for departmental assembly, receptions, and other meetings, when the curtains are pushed back.

INVITATION TO THE IOWA DISTRICT CONVENTION

September 4-7, 1958

The sixty-first convention of the Iowa District will be held in the beautiful new church in Ringsted, Iowa, Rev. George Pallesen, pastor, beginning Thursday evening, September 4th, 1958.

All congregations are requested to send their quota of delegates. Likewise are all the pastors requested to be present.

As a preparation for a happy convention, let us exercise ourselves in faithfulness to our commitments, by invocation of God's guidance and in willing response to His purpose and plan—not always easy.

Friends of the church are cordially invited to share in these happy days.

All for the sake of our blessed Lord and to the honor and glory of His holy name.

C. M. Videbeck, President

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Ringsted, Iowa cordially invites attendance here at the 61st annual convention of the Iowa District, September 4-7, 1958. Kindly send lodging reservations for delegates and guests to Mr. John Andreaesen, Ringsted, Iowa, very soon.

Geo. Pallesen, Pastor
Vern Glasnapp, President

Also included in the plans is a storage space for folding tables, chairs. A unique innovation will provide a built-in area for movie projector and storage of Sunday School materials.

A good sized nursery is also planned to relieve the crowded conditions of the present one. An area for sleeping babies and a play area for toddlers has been incorporated in the plans by Nielsen and Moffatt, architect. An outdoor play area, fenced and sheltered, is also called for in the plans.

The building will connect to the present Sunday School unit by means of a breezeway, and will be paid for with the sanctuary. Harold Futt, the Building Committee chairman, and Reverend Verner N. Carlsen is the pastor.

Present plans call for completion of the building by mid-October. This is the second building to be erected for the congregation in a little more than a year. The congregation was formerly organized in March, 1957, and has over 700 baptized members.

Racine, Wis. Congregation Bids Farewell to Pastor

More than 600 members and friends of Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran Church at Racine, Wis. gathered on the evening of July 27 to bid farewell to the Rev. L. M. Andersen.

Rev. Andersen, pastor at Our Savior's for the past ten years, was installed August 10 as pastor of the Trinity Lutheran Church, Norwalk, Conn.

In presenting Rev. Andersen with a leather suitcase, in which there were nearly 300 silver dollars, Our Savior's member LeRoy Anderson said, "We will not until we must bid Pastor Andersen farewell that we realize how much he meant so much to us. We will never forget him. I know he will meet new opportunities at Trinity Lutheran Church with the same unmeasured energy and ability as he did at Our Savior's."

In accepting the gift, Rev. Andersen expressed his gratitude, gave a special thanks "to the young people for their affection and cooperation, and personally thanked his wife, Charlotte, for her "patience and understanding."

Participating Lutheran pastors from Racine included Pastors M. A. M. Thorvald Hansen, and E. R. Andersen.

(Continued on page 5)

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Much of our news is received from Religious News Service, and the News Bureau of the National Lutheran Council.

JOHN M. JENSEN, Editor
Spencer, Iowa
321 East 8th Street

Editorials and Comments

YOUTH LEADERS

WILL GET NO WORLD ORGANIZATION

ut fifty Lutheran youth leaders met at Liselund, Denmark, July 8-15 to discuss mutual problems. Our own director, Pastor George Robertson, was there too. We have not had any report from the meeting, but the Christian Daily of Copenhagen reported the event and editorialized about it. We report what this paper has to say.

Lutheran World Federation had invited to this conference, and Christian Daily said that the LWF deserved credit for this invitation, since it is opposed to "the hidden agenda." The printed agenda speaks about the need of working at common understanding of what Lutheran Young People's work should be and what should be the practical methods used. The "hidden agenda" which the Americans have in their pocket is the desire to organize a youth department under LWF with the main office in Geneva with executive secretary, a travelling budget, and the arrangement of conferences. The Americans have worked on this for several years. A number of European youth workers were invited as guests to America last year. One purpose of this invitation was to make them interested in this plan.

spokesman for the American viewpoint is Dr. Marcus Riecke of the A.L.C. Last year the plan could not be realized when the leaders met at Minneapolis. Dr. Riecke referred a motion made and carried at Lund in 1947, where it was decided to establish a commission. But at the meeting in Hannover in 1952, the idea was dropped or the idea was placed under the commission of stewardship and practical church work. The reason given was that the young people are not a special category but an integrated part of the congregation.

Germans seem to support the American viewpoint. The rest of the delegates from Asia and Africa and especially from Scandinavia seem less interested. The Americans hold that such an organization will help American youth to get into closer contact with other Lutheran youth people throughout the world.

Lutheran World Federation is cool, however, to this idea. Dr. Carl E. Lund-Quist, executive director of the Lutheran World Federation spoke very strongly against the idea at Liselund. He said that it was not the purpose of the LWF to try to do work that others are doing already. The work suggested is already done through the National Council of Churches, through Y.M.C. and Y.W.C.A. of America, the Lutheran Federation and through the Christian students of the world.

Lund-Quist warned against the tendency to establish youth departments with new secretaries, have conferences, etc. He said that we should not have more organizations for the present.

Warning by Dr. Lund-Quist was not sweet music in the ears of those who wanted an office established at Geneva.

Five days later the Christian Daily reported on the outcome of the discussion. Dr. Lund-Quist had won his point as reported by the Scandinavians.

GREAT MEN BEHIND GREAT DESKS

The "Christian Daily" had an editorial under the heading "Great men behind Great Desks." The paper is happy for the result and says the whole idea of a World Lutheran Organization for youth was reduced to this very fair point: The Lutheran World Federation's head office shall also take the interests of the Lutheran youth into consideration in its daily work that the contact and cooperation between Lutheran young people of the World may be advanced.

The paper states that a certain amount of organization is always needed, but it says that Great Men behind Great Desks have never been popular among ordinary Christians.

It puzzles us that the Christian Daily spends so much space on this one question. The youth leaders must have done something else than discussed this question. Or was this the main reason for going to Liselund?

NO STUDY OF ROMAN CATHOLICISM

The Lutheran World Federation is considering to establish an institute for the purpose of studying the Roman Catholic Church and its theology. This was a result of the LWF Assembly at Minneapolis last year. The LWF has written to the churches to get their reaction to such a study. The Lutheran Church of Poland has objected to such a study. It states that the Roman Church is well known to the Polish Lutherans. It fears that such a study will do more harm than good. It seems as if this answer may be received from several of the Lutheran minority churches. The Roman Church does not recognize the Lutheran church as a true church, and its pastors are not considered rightly ordained.

DR. ROGNESS SEES PULPIT AS PLACE FOR COUNSELING

Dr. Alvin N. Rogness, president of Luther Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., told some 300 Protestant pastors at the annual St. Olaf Summer Theological Conference not to neglect the pulpit as a place for counseling.

"So much is said about counseling these days," Dr. Rogness said, "that one is led to believe people should make a beaten path to the pastor's door morning, noon, and night for private counseling."

"In my opinion," he said, "more counseling work is done from the pulpit by a faithful and sensitive pastor than he will ever know."

Dr. Rogness decried the belief that a pastor's work has been useless unless his doorstep shows heavy signs of wear.

"Instead," he said, "it may be that his preaching has been effective enough to resolve the problems . . . This way there is no loss of face that sometimes follows private counseling. And in the final analysis, most of us have had the fear that people who come to us with problems may be leaning on the pastor much more than they lean on God."

"In counseling," he asserted, "the thrust of the pulpit will have to be in lifting people out and beyond themselves to God. There is a healing in this prescription."

Church News from here and there

CRACK IN BRAZIL'S CATHOLIC FORTRESS CITED BY LUTHERAN

The Rev. Dr. Walter E. Bock, field director of evangelism for the United Lutheran Church in America, said in New York on his return from two months in Brazil that "Protestantism is growing in Brazil and that there is a definite crack in the Roman Catholic fortress in that country."

To support his statement, Dr. Bock reported that the number of Protestants in Brazil have increased more than 200,000 during the past five years and that the number of Lutherans now exceed 500,000.

One of the largest "cracks" in the Catholic fortress, Dr. Bock said, was caused by the Spiritists, a sect numbering 2,000,000, 90 percent of whom are former Roman Catholics.

"The Catholic Church in Brazil," Dr. Bock said, "is tantamount to a state church. It is impossible for a non-catholic to gain any important elected office or substantial political or governmental appointment."

The Lutheran clergyman attributes Protestantism's advance in general, and Lutheranism's in particular, to these factors: A growing tendency to de-centralize the urban church—to build more churches in the suburbs, and to increase in the use of indigenous ministers.

As an example of the trend toward national leadership, Dr. Bock cited the election last month of Dr. Ernst T. Schlieper, an native Brazilian, as president of the Evangelical Congregation of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil.

"Before, the leadership in the country's churches was predominantly European and American," Dr. Bock noted.

SAYS REVIVAL MORE LIKELY FOR KOREA, CENTRAL EUROPE

ANN ARBOR Mich. (RNS)—Dr. George A. Buttrick of Harvard University declared here that a religious revival "is more likely" to take place in Korea and Central Europe, rather than in this country, because those two areas have seen the destructive forces of wars.

The chairman of the university's Board of Preachers maintained that a Judaeo-Christian revival may not take place in America because "we have been almost untouched by two World Wars and have, indeed, almost prospered from them."

Dr. Buttrick, former pastor of Madison Avenue Presbyterian church, New York, spoke at the University of Mich-

igan's summer series of addresses on religion.

He said that if a revival does come to the United States, it must be "joyful" and entail repentance, prayer and contemplation.

"Our age is a crucial one," the preacher emphasized. "We walk through a time bomb world, but we know it. We walk with one foot in time and one in eternity." He added that mankind is rapidly becoming one culture and developing under one technology.

ELC COLOMBIA SYNOD ORGANIZED

A Colombia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church has been organized in Bogota, Colombia. It comprises five congregations, with a sixth in the process of being organized.

The congregations, which have about 500 members, were established by the ELC and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States which began work in Colombia in 1944.

The Rev. Arnfeld C. Morck, superintendent of the Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America,

was elected as the Synod's first president.

There also is an Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia, made up of congregations serving about 100,000 Lutherans of many nationalities.

\$250,000 PROTESTANT AUDIO VISUAL CENTER DEDICATED IN BRAZIL

A milestone in the history of Protestant missionary work in Brazil will place with the dedication in Campinas, Brazil of a \$250,000 Evangelical Audio Visual Center (CAVE).

The center is supported by 21 congregations of the Protestant community in this country and the United States. Its more than \$20,000 worth of equipment includes facilities for recording religious radio programs, making and distributing records, filmstrips, movies, and printing audio-visual materials.

CAVE also holds seminars and institutes to train ministers and missionaries in the proper use of visual aids.

Presiding at the dedication, assisted by representatives of the sponsoring groups, was the Rev. Charles Clay, a Methodist missionary in Brazil and president of CAVE.

Principal speaker was the Rev. Edolfo Anders, general secretary of the Brazilian Protestant Confederation of Churches.

The Wrestler

By S. T. Eward

"BURY ME IN A BOX"

A Christian pastor had given specific directions about the services to be held in his memory after his death. This is what they were:

"Secure rough-hewn lumber and from it build a simple box. Into this place my body. Do no more. Take it to the burial grounds, place it in the six-foot hole according to the law, and cover it with dirt. After this conduct a memorial service in the church. Let this extol the merits of Jesus Christ and emphasize the resurrection and the life everlasting."

His wishes were carried out. The community was impressed. It was a refreshing contrast to the usual demonstrations for funerals. These demonstrations are according to a pattern. The body of the deceased is carefully and "professionally" embalmed so as to make him appear as near his life-likeness as possible. Relatives and friends then proceed by the casket which contains the corpse. While they do this they comment about his appearance. "He looks so 'natural.'" (This is supposed to be "good"). "Digger O'Dey did a good job on him." They make a mental note of this. They want O'Dey to "take care of them too." He will be able to make

them look "real good." That is important for being buried. Coffin prices are reasonable too. The stands in the background wait. His expression is one of satisfaction. Business is good.

The simple burial is also a refreshing contrast to the extravagant play of floral arrangements at funerals. Professionally prepared stands and ribbons are provided go with the white vases. This all costs money, but cousin "Chris" was doing of it. Some of those who pay for these flowers have had to do with buying them. They have a standing order with "Pete" that if aunt "Sarah" dies is to buy flowers and include names on the card. After the funeral have passed by the corpse and bowed by the flowers aunt "Sarah" "got" uncle Pete issues an invoice the relatives and they pay him his share and he pays the florist. The total cost of the burial is about \$500 and \$4000.

Sending money to some phases of work of the church in memory of deceased members is probably consistent with good stewardship.

ted six years ago in a basement an amateur-type tape recorder, has now grown into a full-audio center with a permanent of 11 employees, including three naries and eight technicians.

IAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES APPROVE WOMEN'S ORDINATION

YER, West Germany—Ordination of women to the ministry, to re-an acute clergy shortage, has approved by the synods of three rian Evangelical Churches in any.

o of the bodies, the Evangelical ran Church of Luebeck and the Protestant Church of the Pala-(Pfalz), are in West Germany. hird, the Evangelical Church of t, is in the Soviet Zone.

the Palatinate and Anhalt hes, women ordained and ap-ed to serve a parish will have tle of "Pastoress," it was an-ed.

ile full clergy status will now ven to women theological grad-in these two Churches, only un-ed women may be given mini-l posts. A woman minister who es while holding office must re-or take up a non-ministerial as-ent.

Lutheran Church in Luebeck hile voted to create a post for astoral care of women which is filled by a woman. She will the same rights as her male gues. This means she will be ed, in principle, to preach and ister the sacrament, but in prac-ill be restricted to leadership men's work.

viously women could study the-in Germany, but were not eli-for ordination and appointment stors.

en proposed in the Church of ck recently, the appointment of n pastors was favored by a large ity as a means of providing adequate spiritual care for the egations in the face of the pres-ortage of ministers."

influx of refugees from the e Zone into West Germany has rably augmented the Protestant tion there. Of an estimated 3,-0 who have fled the Soviet Zone 1945, about 77 per cent have Protestants and 15 per cent lies.

membership in the Evangelical h in the Rhineland has increased 2,400,000 to 3,600,000 since 1945, ing in the shortage of pastors.

Bishop Heinrich Meyer of Luebeck said the proposal for ordaining women was made after consultation with numerous German Lutheran leaders.

ULCA TO PUBLISH CHURCH MUSIC JOURNAL

A new religious music magazine, The Journal of Church Music, will make its debut in January, 1959, Dr. H. Torrey Walker, executive secretary of the United Lutheran Church in America's board of publication, said in Philadelphia, Pa.

In making the announcement, Dr. Walker said the monthly publication will be edited and printed in the ULCA's publishing house.

Editor of the new magazine is Barbara Fisher, who was a music teacher and choir director before joining the publication house staff last year. A native of Concord, N. C., she has a Bachelor of Music degree from Salem College, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Contents of the new journal will include church music, articles by music professors and composers and articles of interest to church choir directors, organists and pastors, Miss Fisher said.

Its purpose is to help improve music in the denomination's congregations through a better understanding of religious music, she explained.

ADLAI STEVENSON VISITS MOSCOW'S RELIGIOUS SITES

Adlai E. Stevenson titular head of the Democratic Party in the U.S., highlighted a four-week visit to Russia by going on a guided tour of the ancient Russian Orthodox theological academy at Zagorsk and by speaking at Moscow's only Baptist church where he was enthusiastically received by the congregation.

By special instruction of Metropolitan Nikolai of Krutitsky and Kolomna, second-ranking head of the Russian Orthodox Church, Mr. Stevenson was shown "the most interesting" religious sites and institutions. He was accompanied by his family and a party of American friends.

At Zagorsk, 70 miles west of Moscow, Mr. Stevenson's guide was 80-year-old Bishop Mikhail of Smolensk. The American visitors spent some time at the famous Holy Trinity-St. Serguis Seminary there.

Meanwhile, religious publications in Moscow were reported planning special articles on the Stevenson visit. However, the official Soviet press gave no details regarding his tour of religious institutions.

Earlier, Mr. Stevenson visited the Baptist church here, where at the request of the pastor, he gave a five-minute sermon.

The Democratic leader said he brought the "best wishes of tens of millions of American Protestants who are praying today for peace."

"We believe peace begins in the human heart," he said. "We believe that spiritual life is indispensable to a full and rich national life."

Mr. Stevenson stressed that "it is not just in the experience of things seen and heard that we live, but in faith and reverence for the things we cannot see."

He described the Baptist church as "the best impression among many interesting things I have seen" in Russia. Amid loud cheers from some 2,000 in the congregation, Mr. Stevenson expressed his confidence that the "Russian Baptist community will flourish due to its vitality."

Deeply moved, the communicants bid the Stevenson party farewell by singing the traditional hymn, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 2)

A coffee hour in Fellowship Hall, at which time members shook their pastor's hand for the "last" time, was the closing event of the evening.

Iowa District W.M.S.

The annual convention of the Iowa W.M.S. will be held at Ringsted, Iowa in conjunction with the Iowa District convention at Ringsted, Iowa on Saturday Sept. 6th at 1:30 P.M.

Will you even now pray for this convention that God's Spirit will prevail in the many decisions that are to be made?

Kindly come prepared to stay for the evening meeting too.

Theo Ann Sortedahl

McNabb, III. Franklin Highby, Pastor. At the present time there is unusual musical ability among our children, so we have been having a children's choir in addition to the senior choir which gained slightly in membership this year. During the summer months, when neither of the above groups functions, a men's quartet has been singing at some of the morning services.

The pastor was counselor for boys at the Illinois Dist. Bible camp for youth at Bass Lake, Mich. Five young people from the congregation attended the camp. As far as youth work

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The Washington Observer

By Gerhard Lenski

THE THREAT OF ANOTHER WORLD WAR

Once more the dark cloud of threatening war hangs over our world. The most of our American people, still vacation-minded and pleasure-bent, apparently are not greatly worried. However, our leaders—President Eisenhower, Secretary Dulles, Mr. Lodge, members of Congress—are. It is generally conceded by them and also by our world-rivals, the Russians, that the next war, if it comes, will be fought with nuclear weapons. As such it will be deadly. In all probability it will mark the end of civilization, perhaps the end of all human life and even the end of this earthly planet itself.

No one wants such a war, not even Mr. Khrushchev. The trouble lies in the fact that, not wanting war, so many of us still insist on wanting those things that make for war. In this respect we Americans are not guiltless. We do not want war, but we do want the tin and rubber that come from the Far East, the oil that flows from the wells of the Middle East, the coffee that comes from South America. We want the things that minister to our comfort, our prestige, our security, our power. We want them with such an insistence that pressures are built up, suspicions are engendered, tensions are created, all of which so quickly can and do become the prelude to war.

We chide the Russians for their aggression, their disregard for human rights, their cruelty. We do well so to do in so far as our criticisms are true and right. At the same time, we must not fail to examine ourselves and to repent of those faults in our own lives and in our national economy which may also be contributory to the present crisis. Whatever else it is, the threat of another world war is a ringing call to repentance, a call to us as well as to our rivals. By repenting of our sins we may not be able to avert war. Already we may have gone too far for that. However, repenting of our sins—of selfishness, of self-aggrandizement, of lack of love—we may, even at this late hour, be enabled by God's grace to be absolved from the blame and the shame that are bound to come if and when this

now threatening war is allowed to become a tragic reality.

THE THREAT OF FURTHER INFLATION

Inflation continues to be a national threat. Inflation is seldom as sudden and as spectacular as war. And so it happens that Mr. Average Citizen, who worries little about war, worries even less about inflation. Yes, he may scold a bit about high prices and taxes. Maybe he will even denounce General Motors for keeping the price on those new models so high. But that is about as far as it goes. Having done all that to save his country, Mr. Average Citizen proceeds to spend more freely than ever, to buy that new car and to get what he wants even though he must mortgage the future to do so. If this is an overstatement regarding some thrifty souls still found in the land, it is still an accurate version of countless free-wheeling spenders of our day who go their way with scant concern for tomorrow.

Overagainst the common indifference toward inflation, there are those stern facts that soon or late will impress themselves upon us all. The public debt is rising. Congress is approving a new \$288 billion ceiling. The wages of all government employees have been raised retroactive to the first of the year. So also the pay of those serving in the armed forces. Social Security, in order to pay higher benefits, will cost more. Postal rates have been raised. The President insists that foreign aid must be increased, not decreased. National expenditures for war material, for new highways, for education and many forms of public welfare are being increased. The price of steel and aluminum has been raised which means that new General Motors creation is going to cost us more than ever. Meanwhile yesterday's dollar begins to look and act like thirty cents and Widow Jones, who has been eking out an existence on a starvation pension, makes final plans to go to the Old Folks Home.

True, one man's concern will not help much. On the other hand, if individuals here and there will but open their eyes and then act, something can be done. Our church people

can be such individuals in their respective communities. They can spread the warning word. They can be producers rather than reckless spenders. They can guide and influence others by their example of thrift, discipline and Christian effort. In the aggregate this will help as realistically as continued indifference and added extravagance speed inflation.

GOVERNMENT IS BIG BUSINESS

Tax Foundation, Incorporated (which aims to inform us about the Federal Government) has some amazing figures to give us. In its Executive branch the Federal Government employs about 2,300,000 workers. State and local government employ about 5,700,000 more are employed bringing the total to an approximate 8,000,000. Thus one out of every five employed persons in the United States serves in the government.

The pay-roll? It has been steadily rising and has attained astronomical levels. **Tax Foundation** says that the Federal Government pay roll is \$11 billion annually while the estimated total for state and local employment runs close to \$19 billion. Add to this the pay-roll for our military personnel which amounts to \$1 billion. The grand total is the rounded sum of \$40 billion, a one indeed!

Tax Foundation offers some comparative statistics. The average general worker's weekly pay is \$89.14; the state worker's, \$66.64; the government worker's, \$69.14. If we compare the average weekly pay of the private industrial worker drawing a weekly stipend of \$77.87 with these amounts, it will be seen that our general worker is not bad off at all.

One important fact needs emphasis. Government is not only big business it is our business. We, as citizens, are its share-holders, its administrators, its owners. It must be our prayer and concern that this business of ours be conducted in a manner fair to those who serve, fair to those served and well pleasing in the sight of Him who is the Great Administrator over all.

THE FLIGHT OF OUR RAILROADS

Our railroads are in distress. The **Association of American Railroads** has appealed to Congress to help but it is too late. Income has been dropping. Costs have been mounting. Under present rules and regulations the situation seems hopeless. In the not distant past, railroad stocks and bonds were regarded as a safe edge kind of investment. They are no longer. Will Congress be able to solve this problem? Congress

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THE GIRL

le Girls are the nicest things that happen to peo-
They are born with a little bit of angel-shine about
and though it wears thin sometimes, there is al-
enough left to lasso your heart—even when they
itting in the mud, or crying tempermental tears,
rading up the street in Mother's best clothes.

ittle girl can be sweeter (and badder) oftener than
ne else in the world. She can jitter around, and
o, and make funny noises that frazzle your nerves
ust when you open your mouth, she stands there
re with that special look in her eyes. A girl is
ence playing in the mud, Beauty standing on its
and Motherhood dragging a doll by the foot.

ls are available in five colors—black, white, red,
w, or brown, yet Mother Nature always manages
ect your favortie color when you place your order.
disprove the law of supply and demand—there
illions of little girls, but each is as precious as
s.

d borrows from many creatures to make a little
He uses the song of a bird, the squeal of a pig,
tubbornness of a mule, the antics of a monkey, the
ness of a grasshopper, the curiosity of a cat, the
of a gazelle, the slyness of a fox, the softness of
ten, and to top it all off, He adds the mysterious
of a woman.

little gril likes new shoes, pretty dresses, small
als, first grade, noise makers, the girl next door,
make-believe, Mother's high heels, ice cream,
ens, coloring books, cans of water, going visiting,
tea parties. She doesn't care so much for visitors,
dogs, hand-me-downs, straight chairs, vegetables,
suits, or staying in the front yard. She is loudest
a you are thinking, the prettiest when she has pro-
d you, the busiest at bedtime and the quietest
a you want to show her off.

no else can cause you more grief, joy, irritation,
faction, embarrassment, and genuine delight than
combination of Eve, Salome, and Florence Night-
e? She can muss up your home, your hair, and
dignity—spend your money, your time, and your
er—then just when your patience is ready to crack,
sunshine peeks through and you've lost again.

s, she is a nerve-racking nuisance, just a noisy
le of mischief. But when your dreams tumble
and the world is a mess—when it seems you are
y much of a fool after all—she can make you a
when she climbs on your knee and whispers, "I
you best of all!"

—Author unknown

THE BOY

Between the innocence of babyhood and the dignity
of manhood we find a delightful creature called a boy.
Boys come in assorted sizes, weights, and colors, but
all boys have the same creed: To enjoy every second
of every minute of every hour of every day and to
protest noisily (their only weapon) when the last minute
has come and the adult males pack them off to bed
at night.

Boys are found everywhere—on top of, underneath,
inside of, climbing on, swinging from, running around,
or jumping to. Mothers love them, little girls hate
them, older sisters and brothers tolerate them, adults
ignore them, and Heaven protects them. A boy is Truth
with dirt on its face, Beauty with a cut on its finger,
Wisdom with bubble gum in its hair, and the Hope of
the future with a frog in its pocket.

When you are busy, a boy is an inconsiderate, both-
ersome, intruding jangle of noise. When you want him
to make a good impression, his brain turns to jelly or
else he becomes a savage, sadistic, jungle creature bent
on destroying the world and himself with it.

A boy is a composite—he has the appetite of a horse,
the energy of a pocketsize atomic bomb, the curiosity
of a cat, the lungs of a dictator, the imagination of a
Paul Bunyan, the shyness of a violet, the audacity of
a steel trap, the enthusiasm of a fire cracker, and when
he makes something he has five thumbs on each hand.

He likes ice cream, knives, saws, Christmas, the boy
across the street, woods, water (in its natural habitat),
large animals, Dad, trains, Saturday mornings and fire
engines. He's not much for school, company, books
without pictures, music lessons, neckties, barbers, girls,
overcoats, adults, or bedtime.

Nobody else is so early to rise, or so late to supper.
Nobody else gets so much fun out of trees, dogs, and
breezes. Nobody else can cram into one pocket a rusty
knife, a half-eaten apple, 3 feet of string, an empty
plastic sack, 2 gum drops, 6 yen, a sling shot, a chunk
of unknown substance, and a genuine super-sonic code
ring with a secret compartment.

A boy is a magical creature—you can lock him out
of your workshop, but you can't lock him out of your
heart. You can get him out of your study, but you
can't get him out of your mind. Might as well give up
—he is your captor, your jailer and your boss—a freck-
led-face, pint-sized, cat-chasing bundle of noise. But
when you come home at night with only the shattered
pieces of your hopes and dreams, he can mend them
like new with the two magic words—"Hi Dad!"

—Author unknown

Our Foreign Mission Fields

Let Us Talk About Colombia

Gustavo David Rodriguez

Mr. Gustavo D. Rodriguez has been in this country for some time on a scholarship from the E.L.C. He completed studies for his M.A. degree at the university of Minnesota with special honors. During the latter part of the school year he spent some time at the Lutheran Bible Institute. K.R.J.

All of us are aware of the religious persecution in Colombia. As we note the violent opposition against all Protestant missions, including our own Lutheran Mission, we must not conclude that they are working among an uncivilized people and that their violence is simply a demonstration of ignorance. It is true that the persecution of Protestantism cannot be explained as a sign of civilization. A cursory study of the history of humanity makes a person aware, however, that the period of religious transition in Europe was even more brutal.

Any person who reads or hears news knows that when deep-rooted convictions of people of nations currently considered the most civilized of our present world are challenged by new and revolutionary ideas, a period of violence follows.

As in the Time of Reformation

In Colombia this phenomenon is happening in the religious field. There today, as in Europe in the time of the Reformation, the power of the Roman Catholic church is being felt. Repeating the history of the church, the Roman Catholic church, has not only ecclesiastical but civil power also. Abuses and crimes are committed under the excuse of preserving the unity of the Church and the peace of its people. Let us be thankful that they do not work with the organization and zeal of the so-called "Holy Inquisition."

It is known to everyone that Colombians have been submitted to the Catholic ideals and teachings and practices since the beginning of the 16th Century. For years and years

this was the only church influence. As a result, Catholicism has become a part of the national traditions we Colombians cherish. To break away from these convictions is as difficult as it is to get used to the undeniable truth that all races are equal when the person has been reared in an atmosphere where the opposite is taught. An understanding of the forces that regulate the behavior of people, is important. It clarifies the facts, opens new perspectives and nourishes our hope.

Advance Under Difficulty

Let us accept the fact that the work is difficult! Let us expect that the progress be slow! And above all, let us labor respecting and loving the people to whom we are to offer the precious gift of the Gospel of Salvation.

Bearing the above facts in mind, the progress of the work of the ELC and the UELC in Colombia has been good. In 22 years of work we can mention four officially organized congregations and many more under development. In Bogota, the modern capital of Colombia, we have a beautiful church seating over 400 people. From Sunday to Sunday this church is crowded with people, who, in spite of all sorts of persecution, are faithful to the Lord's calling. In Sogamoso, the prosperous city near the rich steel mill of "Paz del Rio" the Mission has just completed, thanks to the support of the Women's Missionary Federation, a modern building for Church and school use. In Tunja, fortress of Catholicism, full of high steeples of old temples, treasures of colonial architecture and art, a living congregation is growing and witnessing the Power of the Living God. In El Cocuy, town of agricultural wealth, the Gospel is working miracles in the lives of the farmers. In the large expanses of the Plains of "Casanare," where the people are as bold, courageous, free and broadminded as nature has taught them to be, the Seed of the Word has found good soil.

The possibilities for the extension of the Gospel of Christ in Colombia are limitless. Through the trying days of political strife (1946-1957) people have realized that only a living God can save, comfort and help them

Edited by Rev. K. R. Jensen

Viborg, South Dakota

through the desolation of intern wars generated by hate and passion. The witnessing of regenerated Christians of all Protestant denominations kindles their curiosity; the work of the Holy Spirit opens their hearts; the preaching of the Word through the tireless, faithful and courageous work of the missionaries, national pastors and evangelists, gives them the faith that can accept the redemptive work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Price of Being a Christian

The price of becoming a Christian is great! This breaking away from old traditions isolates them from their friends, their families, and their tire social circle. They are willing through Christ, to experience this. However, their sons and daughters are doomed to the same ordeal from the time of their birth. They go to schools of the State and when State and religion are united, the result is obvious. The necessity of a whole new education atmosphere is universally accepted. Besides that, the Lutheran Church of Colombia depends upon these youngsters for continuation of the work in the future. (New missionaries are not permitted to enter the country.) The answer to this problem is simple: The Lutheran Church of Colombia must provide schools where the children of the believers can receive a Christ-centered education.

Right now, the Colombia Evangelical Lutheran Mission of South America has five elementary schools, one Bible and Junior High Institute. Three of our national pastors hold studies in this "Instituto Biblico Cultural." It is logical that we need good Christian teachers to run these schools. Because the Universities and Teachers Colleges of Colombia are controlled by the State and, of course, by the Catholic Church, it is not possible to train them in those institutions. This is a problem we all have to solve.

The Lutheran Church in Colombia is grateful for your efforts, your work and your continuous support. National pastors and evangelists share the work with the missionaries. Together through strength received from Jesus Christ, we shall continue sowing the Good Seed in Colombia.

—"The Missionary"

Afghanistan and the Preacher

An interesting editorial we found in the Observer, United Kingdom of Canada:

Afghanistanism is a contagious sickness from which many preachers, politicians and ministers of religion suffer. The symptoms: writing, speaking and preaching with enthusiasm and apparent great courage against far-away evils and irrelevant sins.

It is easy to win a reputation for great courage by denouncing evils in the Deep South, South Africa, the Roman Catholic Church or Afghanistan. There will be no protest. Most listeners won't know enough about them to refute the most and most sweeping condemnation.

A man may preach against the evils of the atomic bomb year after year, denounce John Foster Dulles and Soviet Russia every Sunday and develop a reputation for hard-hitting and clear-thinking. No one will leave the church in a huff, no one will cut off his use of the duplex envelope. Some, however, may leave out of boredom, but only the quiet, disheartening few.

Let the same minister speak up on conditions on Main Street, in the local high school, the Lion's Carnival, or the festivities at the businessmen's annual frolic and see what happens!

It is quite safe in most United Churches to denounce the interests and the drug traffic. But let one suggest the Temperance movement is in a rut and some new approach should be made to the whole business and he will be rebuffed from the Bible Class, the WCTU, and maybe the Presbytery.

It is safe to speak in vague terms about labour and management and how they both ought to reform themselves; it is not so safe to criticize big business for not paying better wages and more equitably; it is relatively safe to criticize big labour, but it is dangerous to discuss conditions in the local two-by-four factory, or the deaconess, the church organist and janitor get paid. It is fashionable and considered courageous to tackle the issue. Mr. Duplessis, Norman Vincent Peale, Billy Graham and the Southern Baptists. But it's quite safe, for they are not hit, they can take it and never hit back. What is dangerous and requires real courage is to take on the chairman of the music committee who may be vitiating the service of the church, the President of the W.A. who may be a worldly man undermining the spiritual life of the congregation, the superintendent of the Sunday School who has held the position for forty years and wants to make it fifty even if he has to leave the school to satisfy his ego.

It is almost always safe for a little man to take on the forces of darkness in the big bad world. It's dangerous to take on about the shades of grey in a local and specific situation.

Finally, to avoid the charge of Afghanistanism might we not ask what is the Protestant Church—or more specifically the United Church doing about this sort of thing in Quebec?



As the opening day of classes for the 1958-59 school year approaches, applications for admittance continue to trickle in. To date, 165 new students have applied for admission to the college. That figure coupled with the number of returning students, could put Dana's enrollment over last year's record full-time enrollment of 302.

The face of the campus has changed considerably since last May.

The remodeling work in Old Main is nearly completed, as is the work being done in the kitchen. The retaining wall along the main road by the boys' dorm is completed and it is hoped the curbing along the new road past the gym will be finished before school opens.

Many of the rooms in Pioneer Memorial and the two dormitories have received a new coat of paint.

Perhaps the most obvious change on the Dana campus has been the removal of the road between Old Main and the dormitories. The quadrangle has been extended to replace the old road. Those of you who were here at convention time saw this change, but now that the grass is up it's hard to realize that just a few months ago a road ran through the area.

Time is running short . . . get that application in NOW!

DEVELOPMENT NOTES

The contributions which institutions like Dana College make to the public welfare in the field of higher education without drawing on tax funds are given public recognition and encouragement through specific exemptions in state and federal laws governing taxation.

A gift to Dana College, whether from income or capital reduced the donor's taxes. Under Federal Law an individual may deduct from his gross income the amount of all such gifts up to 30% of his adjusted gross income.

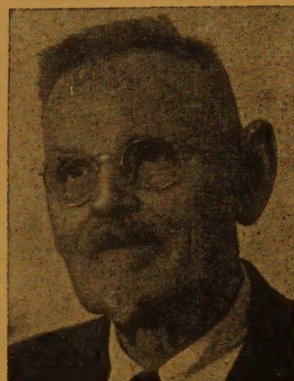
THE LUTHER LEAGUE

John W. Nielsen, Editor

The Youngest and the Oldest



"The Youngest"



"The Oldest"

Dear Luther Leaguer:

In behalf of the Japan Committee I hereby express our deep appreciation for the generous way in which you have supported our Japan mission by contributing toward the salary of Pastor Lloyd Neve (Do you remember he spoke in your congregation?), toward Lutheran Bible camps in Japan (Did you have the opportunity to attend your own camp this summer?), and by supporting Japanese theological students (Do you have any prospective seminary students in your league?).

By the time you read these lines you may have seen two brief articles sent to **The Ansgar Lutheran** about four weeks ago. I call this to your attention as we all are apt to read our church paper less carefully during the summer season.

The one article is about the oldest U.E.L.C. foreign missionary, Dr. Winther, who arrived in Japan in 1898. That is almost two generations ago! He has set a wonderful example for us all—young and old. Don't you think that the only one of the ten commandments which has a promise added to it should encourage us to offer a special prayer for him? Read about him, and intercede for him.

The other article tells about our youngest missionary, Marlene Paulsen, and her many activities while she attended Dana College. She became 21 on July 6th, and she is now on her way to "the Land of the Rising Sun" where she will work among young people teaching in our mission high school for girls. Wouldn't it be well to offer a special prayer for her at your next Luther League meeting? You will of course also remember Pastor Peter Mathiasen and his family who will soon be on their way to our newest mission field, Brazil in South America, as well as Pastor Paul Johnsen and family who have just returned to Japan and Pastor and Mrs. Lyle Kohler who are leaving for Africa.

Sincerely in Christ our Lord,

Paul Nyholm

WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA, LEAGUERS

PURSUE VARIED ACTIVITIES

Counselors:

St. Andrew Luther League has two new counselors. They are **Mr. and Mrs. David Fletcher**, whose daughter **Don** is an active leaguer. They replace **Mr. and Mrs. Bostrom** who resigned after a number of months faithful service. **Mr. and Mrs. Steven Pontier** have been league counselors since the Luther League was organized.

Campers:

Four St. Andrew girls attended Bible camp at Camp **Seely**. They were **Judy Carlsen**, **Bunnie Sohngen**, **Al Soderman**, and **Carolyn Schiel**.

Party:

The St. Andrew Luther League was the guest of the League of the Church of the Master (A.L.C.), La Habra, for a beach party, July 20. Over sixty young people turned out for the wiener roast and plunge in the blue Pacific waters.

Guest Speakers:

Sammy Lindell, noted former pitcher for the New York Yankees and a star in four different world series, was the guest at the August 10th meeting of the league. The pastor of the Hills Luther League (A.L.C.) was also present at this meeting.

Project:

The League approved a dual project for the next six months. The young people will raise \$300.00 to be divided between home and foreign missions. The fund-raising will be done exclusively through cooperative projects such as car washes.

District Delegates:

Delegates to the Pacific District Luther League Convention at Norwalk, August 28-31, are **Gerald Pryor** and **Don Fletcher** both of whom are officers of the local league organization.

Editors Chosen:

Editors of the new monthly newsletter are **Janet Edmeyer** and **Jacquelynne Bostrom**.

YOUTH OFFICE BULLETIN BOARD

SHOUT THE GOOD NEWS!

Start the new League year, September 1, with a local League news sheet.

Invite every youth in your church to share Luther League blessings. Make it a means of witnessing to others what Christ has done for you.

Include the dates, place of meeting, and topics of your league meetings several weeks in advance.

Call attention to special events coming up in your local, circuit, and district league schedule.

Include news items about activities of your leaguers. Urge all leaguers to attend Bible Class and Worship Services.

Send a copy of your league news sheet to our Youth editor, Pastor John W. Nielsen, 400 East Sumner St., Northfield, Minn. And to the Youth Office, 108 Hansen Avenue, Rt. 1, Blair, Nebraska.

Remember to send a copy to your District Luther League President.

BLAIR LEAGUE HOLDS TALENT NIGHT

The Luther League of First Lutheran Church, Blair, Nebraska, held a Talent Night, May 25. All the talent was provided by the league. The program consisted of vocal duets, solos, quartets, octettes and ensemble, instrumental solos and ensemble, and a Luther League band and choir. A skit, "The Book and I," was presented. Among the leaguers in this skit were **Mickey Jensen**, **Jane Sackett**, **Nila Sheets**, and **Dennis Stave**. Also on the program was a humorous reading. Refreshments were served and a freewill offering was received.

NORTHFIELD LEAGUE ADOPTS PROJECTS

Wishing to take an active part in the furnishing of the new church that is being planned for their parish, the Luther Leaguers of Northfield, Minnesota, voted to raise funds for the purchase of a large stationary movie screen for the fellowship hall and the kneeler for the chancel. Already a sizeable amount of cash has been raised by an ice cream social and by a car wash.

BY THE FIRESIDE

LISTEN, MY HEART

By Jessie Bowen Pierce

Be still! my heart, no throbbing ache of thine
Can stem the tide—nor change the course; reign
Thyself! close tight thine eyes and stop thine ears,
Else all thy days and nights be spent in tears!
Thine efforts have been futile, all in vain . . .
While evil flaunts anew its worldwide gain!

Awake, my heart! no coward's part we'll play!
While life shall last, thy will must find the way;
Cease thou to weep—and let thy faith be strong,
Remembering, God sanctions not the wrong.
It was our own poor strength we measured by,
That let us see defeat and wail our cry . . .

Awake my heart! When God is with us still,
Each mountain peak is but a rolling hill!

—Upward

"LIKE A MIGHTY ARMY?"

By J. W. Mellick

That's what it says: "Like a mighty army moves the church of God." Those are the words found in a familiar hymn.

Could this happen in the army?

It is roll-call time on the drill field. The captain calls out, "John Brown?" and Private Brown answers, "Here, sir." "Edward Smith?" (No answer.) "Where's Smith?" "Sir," ventures a buddy, "Private Smith bought a boat, and he left early this morning for the lake and won't be here." "Thank you," says the captain; "it is an ideal day for boating." "Robert Thompson?" (No response.) "Where's Thompson?" "Thompson, sir, said I should tell you that he watched a late television show and 'hit the sack' too late to drill this morning." "Tell him we missed him," coos the captain.

After calling three or four names, with response, the officer calls, "Sam Jones?" Immediately a voice explains, "Sir. Private Jones is having company, and he stayed around the mess hall to help fix something for them." "That's nice and thoughtful of him," replies the captain, and continues, "Paul White?" (No answer.) "Who knows about White?" "Corporal White's got himself a new car, and he's back of the barracks polishin' it and doin' some general tinkerin', Captain." After a few more names answered, another is called. "Stanley Williams?" "Where's Williams?" "Sir, Williams said that you said something he didn't like the other day, so he's not comin' back no more." The cap-

tain promised an apology, hoping to soothe the situation.

"Like a 'mighty army'?"

Where is the moral fibre and spiritual "muscle" and "backbone" that is so often absent in our congregations of today? The greatest threat to the church is not the attacks of its enemies but the indifference of its "friends."

—Free Methodist

PROBLEM

A lady we heard about said she always said a little prayer of thanks every time she saw a garbage can, for it reminded her of the abundance we enjoy in this fortunate country of ours. Some way ought to be found for us to share our abundance with the hungry people of the world—not for political reasons—but because that's the kind of people we are! But apparently this isn't as easy as it sounds.

About 1000 A.D., a ruler in Persia, named Agud, faced a similar problem. His solution, though successful, does not suggest any very practical idea for us. It seems there was a terrible famine in Persia at the time and despite the fact that many persons had food far in excess of their needs, countless thousands of others were dying of hunger. The monarch solved the problem neatly. He issued a proclamation to the effect that for every poor man who died of starvation one rich man should be executed immediately. Thereafter, on one starved. Wonder how he would have solved the present day problem.

—Whatsoever Things

GOD WALKS WITH ME

By Edna Beiler

God walks with me in autumn wood
Where golden leaves drift down
and down
To whirl in drifts about my feet.
(My thoughts turn to his golden street—
Fit highway for a holier town.)

God walks with me through autumn fields
Where weeds seeds shatter in the grass—
Where every further footstep brings
Humble and half-forgotten things
To my remembrance as we pass

God walks with me on autumn hills
(Bright symbols of eternity).
Oh, here is joy I never knew,
Rare wonder and amazement, too
God walks his autumn world with me!

—Gospel Herald

Johnny's daddy found him sitting on top of another small boy. "Hee here," said the father. "Why has you got Timmy pinned to the ground like that?"

Johnny turned so his father could see his cut and swollen eye. "You told me to count a hundred before I hit anybody," he said. "And I want him to be here when I get through counting."

"Why mourn about some hopeless filth
In the stone-tables of the law,
When Scriptures every day afresh
Are traced in tables of the flesh."

—Author unknown

"I sought to hear the voice of God
And climbed the topmost steeple
But God declared: "Go down again
I dwell among the people."

—Author unknown

"We search the world for truth;
cull
The good, the pure, the beautiful,
From graven stone and written scroll
From all old flower-fields of the soil
And, weary seekers of the best,
We come back laden from our quest
To find that all the sages said
Is in the Book our mothers read"

—Whittier

There's No Doctrinal Bar To Ordination of Women In Sweden

A prominent Swedish theologian said at Geneva that he saw no doctrinal obstacle to the ordination of women in the Lutheran Church.

The theological issues behind the current controversy in Sweden over the prospect of women pastors were reviewed by Professor Gustaf Wingren of Lund before the working committee of the World Council of Churches' Faith and Order Commission, it was reported by the Ecumenical Press Service of the WCC.

Both chambers of the Riksdag or Parliament have passed bills which would permit women to take holy orders as of July, but the measure must be approved by next fall's Church Convocation to become effective. A similar government proposal was rejected last year.

Recent polls have indicated much sentiment within the church—in parishes, organizations and related groups—in favor of admitting women to ecclesiastical offices. However, strong opposition has also been expressed, chiefly by the clergy.

About 600 pastors and laymen met recently and formed an organization to fight the possible ordination of women. Olof Bo Giertz of Gothenberg was named to head a special committee to draw up plans for the anti-ordination drive.

Commenting on the organization's aims, Bishop Giertz declared that "it is better for a pastor to take the consequences of violating the law and suspend his official duties than to argue with his own conscience."

Professor Wingren said the issues had been obscured by the controversy and that the meetings of synods had been unusually well attended since the problem arose.

"It is a tragedy," he declared, "that in Sweden the issues have never been properly joined because one side is labeled liberal and the other fundamentalist. The arguments of those for and against have never been squarely faced, so that a decision by the Church cannot lead to a real solution, but can only increase bitterness on both sides."

The Swedish theologian said the controversy had revealed that theology, the pastors and the church governments had gotten out of touch with the people of the Church, and that as well as that the "moment of awakening to what has happened" had now arrived.

According to Dr. Wingren, the Lutheran teaching about men in the ministry has to be deducted from the full Lutheran position about the place of men and women in the nation. The subordination of women to men in Sweden is no longer considered to apply to all sides of church and social life. Women, he said, could now speak in church and were often in position over men in secular occupations.

The only point at which inequality persisted, he added, was in ordination to the ministry; but if the Church wished

Women pastors in the Lutheran church seem greater possibility as the several countries permit ordination. Denmark has four women pastors, Germany has recently permitted the ordination of women. It is a much discussed problem in Sweden at present. Professor Gustav Wingren issued a statement at Geneva which is of general interest.

to be consistent it would have to go back to a basis of inequality between the sexes in family and social life as well as in ordination.

"If we use the argument from the order of creation," he said, "it must apply to all relationships and not be used only to exclude women from the ministry."

However, the theologian claimed that a study of Luther's own attitude made it clear that, apart from certain unchangeable elements such as preaching, baptism, absolution and Holy Communion, there were no elements in the Church's life that could not be altered. These main points were necessary for salvation and for the Church, but apart from them the other requirements laid down in the New Testament were only to be applied if they seemed sensible and practicable.

Luther had excluded "women and children" from preaching the Gospel, he added, because it seemed to him unreasonable for his own time, not because it was contrary to the New Testament, and Laurence Petri, the Swedish Lutheran reformer, had said, "We are not bound by the rule that women must keep silence in the Church. We observe it, but we are free to change it if that seems reasonable."

Dr. Wingren said it seemed odd that the free churches, which claim to base all their church order on the New Testament, ordain women, but the Lutheran Church, which is supposed to be freer at this point, does not ordain them.

"However," he went on, "in the Lutheran Church of Sweden men and women are ordained for the whole field of missionary work, yet while we ordain them for missionary work we do not ordain them for the home churches."

Although there was a strong argument from tradition against the ordaining of women, Dr. Wingren did not think it was final for Lutherans because "the Lutheran Church cannot make statements of principle on the basis of tradition, but only in terms of what is sensible and practicable."

Therefore, because the proclamation of the Church has to be furthered, he said, the freedom of ordaining women should be used if it helps to bring the Gospel to the world; but if the truth of the Gospel is in some way obscured by the step, then it would not be justified as reasonable in practice.

Although he personally favored the admission of women to the ministry, Dr. Wingren concluded, he thought that the step in itself would not be followed by any great results because the main problem of the general decline in parish life in the Church of Sweden was only obscured by the present discussion on the ordination question.

	Fiscal Yr. Calendar Luth. V. Acc.	
	Total	Synodical
Budget		\$488949.00
Forward Phase		\$2500.00
Previously Acknowledged	\$63916.37	\$46447.43
Montreal, Quebec, Canada, St. Ansgar's Danish Ev. Luth. Church for Synodical Quota by Atlantic District	500.00	500.00
Castro Valley, Calif., Faith Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	589.82	589.82
Brush, Colo., All Saints Church, Eben Ezer for Synodical Quota	50.00	50.00
Moorhead, Ia., Bethesda Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Laura Sorenson, Onawa, Iowa, for Home Missions	10.00	10.00
Greenville, Mich., St. Paul's Ev. Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	425.00	425.00
Westby, Mont., Emmaus Luth. Church. Given by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Andersen in memory of Louis Andersen, Kalispell, Mont., for Santal Mission	10.00	10.00
Dannebrog, Nebr., Luth. Church. Given by Mrs. Eva Christensen for LWA	10.00	
Laurel, Nebr., United Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	112.80	112.80
Orum, Nebr., Immanuel Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	50.00	50.00
Kenmare, N. D., Trinity Church Junior Mission Society for Santal Mission	25.00	25.00
Eugene, Ore., Bethesda Luth. Church for Pastor Morck's Salary, South America Mission	423.21	423.21
Portland, Ore., Bethany Luth. Church, given by Mrs. Anna Isaacsen, Ruth and Isa Isaacsen in memory of Mrs. Cecelia Petersen, Tigard, Ore., for Home Missions	3.00	3.00
Given by Mrs. Anna Isaacsen for Sudan Mission	15.00	15.00
Green Bay, Wis., Bethel Ev. Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	199.40	199.40
Hartland, Wis., Our Savior's Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	200.00	200.00
Kenosha, Wis., St. Mary's Luth. Church, Young People's Bible Class for new missionaries in Brazil, South America Mission	25.00	25.00
Washington Island, Wis., Trinity Ev. Luth. Church for Japan Mission \$78.67, for Sudan Mission \$25.40	104.07	104.07
Given by H. A. Gudmundsen for LWA	10.00	
Denver, Colo., Christ the King Ev. Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	258.30	258.30
Council Bluffs, Ia., Our Savior's Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	500.00	500.00
Blair, Nebr., Mrs. H. P. Hansen and Grace Hansen in memory of Dr. Ethan Mengers for So. America Mission	3.00	3.00
Minneapolis, Minn., Mrs. Waldemar Jensen and Ann Jensen in memory of Mr. Waldemar Jensen for Home Missions	30.00	30.00
St. Paul, Minn., Anonymous for Home Mission \$50; Dana School Fund \$50; Foreign Missions \$50	150.00	150.00
Westby, Mont., Emmaus Luth. Church given by Mr. and Mrs. Peder Norgaard in memory of Louis Andersen, Kalispell, Mont., for Sudan Mission	10.00	10.00
Saxeville, Wis., St. John's Luth. Church for Sudan Mission	16.45	16.45
Standard, Alta., Canada, West Canada Dist. Treasurer:		
Our Savior's Luth. Church, Hussar, Offering at time of Paul Johnsen's visit for Japan Mission	42.35	42.35
Svend K. Jensen, Calgary, for Foreign Missions	50.00	50.00
Dannevirke Ev. Luth. Church, Redvers, Sask., for Synodical Quota	30.00	30.00
TOTAL	\$67768.77	\$50279.83

Received with thanks.

Blair, Nebraska, August 16, 1958.

P. V. Hansen, Treasurer

THE WASHINGTON OBSERVER

(Continued from page 6)

so many other problems to solve before adjournment that it can hardly be expected to do much about this one, at least, not soon. And so . . .

From this regrettable situation certain important lessons can be learned. Our free enterprise system, good as it is, is not depression proof. Our financiers are clever but they do not have all the answers. Money values are elusive things. It is risky business to think otherwise of them. Better for us all, rich or poor as we may be, to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, trusting meanwhile that the material blessings necessary for life will also be forthcoming. Yes, the plight of our railroads does confirm this Scriptural truth in a very real, though painful, way.

PRESIDENT OF LUTHER LEAGUE OPPOSES NEW YOUTH PROGRAM

After we had written the editorial on page 3, we received this news item:

The President of the Luther League of America, ULCA, said on her return from Europe today that she had op-

posed a recommendation that Lutheran youth groups and programs throughout the world be co-ordinated in a central project.

Judy Ford of Cherryville, N. C., voiced her objection during the Lutheran World Federation Youth Leaders Conference at Liselund, Denmark, last month. She said: "The strength of our work lies in national organizations and not in a central office. The Lutheran youth program throughout the world can successfully be planned and administered by the present staff at LWF headquarters in Geneva."

Miss Ford added that the delegates at the conference were not of a common mind concerning the development of a youth department, or in the hiring of a special staff member to co-ordinate the program. She was the only woman among the 40 delegates.

The first girl president of the Luther League, Miss Ford said she supported the continuation of a literature and student exchange program which she believes "can be one of the most effective instruments to promote good will and understanding among young people throughout the world."

BOOK REVIEW

All books reviewed may be purchased Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebraska

STEWARDS APPOINTED. Augsburg Publishing House. Paper binding. 5 1/4 x 7 3/4. Dr. Raymond M. Olden, Director of Stewardship, ELC. pages. 75¢.

The ten chapters of this book treat the subject of stewardship to theology of the catechism. The relationship of stewardship to The Word, The Commandments, The Creed, Prayer, and The Sacraments is the emphasis.

Questions at the end of each chapter are designed for group discussion.

Written with the layman in mind, its language is non-technical. It may be used by laymen as a text book for teaching. L.M.A.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 5)

The local group is concerned, it can be said that it has been quite successful. An interesting variety of things helps to make this so. When youth are allowed to manage their league as much as possible, they are able to make wise choices and are interested. Such is the maze of activities in this small town that they meet only once each month. It is in keeping with the policy of just every other organization in the area. At one of the recent meetings of the league, Mr. Paul Simon, league representative, was the speaker. He is a former student at Dana College.

For vacation Bible school, held in local grade school, was a success. Since there were nine teachers for about 40 students, there was time to give individual attention to the students. The music was taught by one of our members who has been a teacher in grade school.

This spring the pastor spent three weeks in pastoral clinical training at the state mental hospital at Elgin. This was of tremendous benefit to him in his personal spiritual life. His training should reflect in the future by being better able to help his people in their quest for spiritual growth.

Wennington, Wis., St. Peter's Lutheran Church has planted a "Lord's Supper" this year with fine success. All kinds of vegetables are grown and sold. Some members have also planted vegetables at home and turned the money when they had sold the vegetables.

Mr. S. S. Kaldahl of Oaks, Okla., has been engaged to manage the new Homes at Elk Horn, Iowa.

Milltown, Wis. "Aquatennial" will have a new meaning for one Lutheran member in Wisconsin whenever she hears the word from now on. For on July 16 Susan Hellerud of Milltown, Wis. won first place in the aquatic contest which was a part of the year's aquatennial celebration in Minneapolis. Thirty-five young people from the midwest competed in the contest at the Nicollett Hotel.

She receives a trophy and a \$100 scholarship. Susan will receive an all-expense-paid trip to the Chicagoland

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Blair, Nebraska

Paul Guyer

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Music Festival in Chicago August 23. Here she will compete in the National Contest. Susan is a pianist and won these honors with a Scarlotty Etude.

Susan is fifteen years old and lives on a farm. She is a member of Milltown Lutheran Church and its Sunday School, Luther League, and Youth Choir. She is also one of the assistant organists of the church.

Trufant, Mich. The congregation of St. Thomas Church, Trufant, Michigan, gave a farewell party for Pastor and Mrs. Lyle Kohler Sunday evening, August 3rd. Pastor and Mrs. Kohler are leaving for the Mission Field.

Kankakee, Ill. On the occasion of his twenty-fifth anniversary of his years in the ministry, the Rev. Christian Bertelsen, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Kankakee, Illinois, was honored by the congregation and friends at a reception on Sunday, August 10th from 2 to 5 p.m.

Approximately 200 persons attended the affair which was held in the church parlors decorated in a color scheme of silver, white, pink and green.

A tree of silver was presented to the pastor, and many cards and congratulatory messages were received.

Pastor Bertelsen has served the congregations at McNabb, Illinois, Owatonna, Minnesota, Humboldt County, Iowa, and for the past 8½ years has been in Kankakee. He also serves the ELC congregation at Herscher, Illinois.

A new church was built at Kankakee during the years of 1953-54.

"1958 Pleasant Hill Lutheran Bible Camp"

The basic Christian foundation started in the Junior weeks, followed by a broader understanding during the

Youth week, lead to a deeper appreciation of the Bible as the Word of God during Family week. This year the Junior week had Miss Edith Skobo of Blair as Dean, Pastor Eugene Wekander of Elk Horn as Instructor, Youth week had Pastor Oscar Johnson of Detroit as Dean and Pastor Fred Jacobsen of Albert Lea as Instructor. Family week had Pastor Clarence E. Jensen of Greenville, as Dean, Doctor Edward Schramm, Editor of "The Lutheran Standard" and Doctor Victor Pearson, Professor of Religion at Augustana College, Rock Island as Instructors.

Doctor Schramm led a study of the book of Nehemiah. Nehemiah, cupbearer to King Artaxerxes, felt the call of God to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. With the king's permission, he returned to Jerusalem and roused the people to the task. Most of the people rebuilt their portion but some doing a double amount because the nobles did not feel the need to work on the wall. When the wall was finished, Nehemiah cleansed the temple, the city and the priests, exhorting all to work for good.

Doctor Pearson led a study of Paul's letter to the Ephesians. This is a short book but it covers a wide area of Christian doctrine. It calls us to salvation, shows us the new life, gives us general and specific rules of conduct, pitfalls and the armor of God to protect us. Doctor Pearson used this quotation to start his study. "The Bible is the Revelation of God, written by inspired men, for the instruction of God's people, and the salvation of the world."

A week of study such as this gives us a clearer view of God's power to accomplish all things.

NEBRASKA DISTRICT

The 54th Annual Convention of the Nebraska District will be held in First Lutheran Church, Fremont, Nebraska, September 11-14, 1958. Lodging and breakfast will be served free to those who register in advance. Please send your request and reservation direct to First Lutheran Church, East 11th and Lincoln Streets, Fremont, Nebraska. All congregations of the District are requested to send delegates and all pastors of the District are asked to attend.

The Convention opens with a service of Holy Communion, and there will be Bible Studies Friday and Saturday morning. The Congregational Topic is "Ways of Winning and Keeping Souls for Christ and His Church." The District Topic is "The Christian Life in the Home and Family." The District W.M.S. will meet on Saturday afternoon with the W.M.S. and Churchmen's Banquet Saturday evening.

James W. Olsen, President
Ben Engskow, Secretary

First Lutheran Church, Fremont, Nebraska, hereby cordially extends its invitation to all pastors and congregations of the Nebraska District to attend the 54th Annual Convention to be held in Fremont, September 11-14, 1958. Pastors, delegates, and guests will be housed in the homes of the parish where they will also receive free breakfast. Other meals will be served at the church, with the exception of the W.M.S. and Churchmen's Banquet.

All registrations should be sent directly to First Lutheran Church, East 11th and Lincoln Streets, Fremont, Nebraska, not later than September 4th. Please state how many are in your party, when you will arrive and whether or not you have transportation.

Because this will be the first convention in our new church we consider it an opportunity for us to use these facilities for our District Convention.

Mr. Arthur Peters, President
James W. Olsen, Pastor

1958 Parish Education Month

Come Into Our Home, Lord Jesus!

The all-important place of the home in Christian education is expressed in the theme for our 1958 Parish Month emphasis (usually September),—COME INTO OUR HOME, LORD JESUS. As we study the titles of the tracts prepared to bring out this emphasis, we see that they deal definitely with the home as a most vital and important place in Christian education:

COME INTO OUR HOME, LORD JESUS:

As We Worship Together	\$1.25 per hundred
As We Study the Bible Together	\$1.25 per hundred
As We Live Together	\$1.25 per hundred
As We Serve Thy Church Together	\$1.25 per hundred
As We Face The World Together	\$1.25 per hundred
Recognition Bookmark	\$.60 per dozen
(5858L) Service Folder	\$2.00 per hundred
(858) Rally Day Card	25¢ a dozen, \$1.50 per hundred
(1021) Souvenir Tags	25¢ per dozen, \$1.50 per hundred
(525) Metal Buttons	30¢ per dozen, \$2.25 per hundred

RALLY DAY

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All Envelopes lithographed in full color. 4¼x2½ inches.

No. 3006 85¢ per hundred



RALLY DAY FOLDER AND CARD

For Rally Day, Promotion Day, or Reopening Day this fall, the NEW 1958 Augsburg Rally Day folder is a four-color folder. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when his is old he will not depart from it," Proverbs 22:6, is the scripture on the folder and the illustration is bringing the children to Christ.

Also available is a four-color post card with the same illustration as folder.

No. 5858-L Folder	\$2.00 per hundred
No. 858 Post Card	25¢ per dozen, \$1.50 per hundred

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RALLY DAY BUTTONS

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No. 858

25¢ per dozen

\$1.50 per 100

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No. 1021

25¢ per dozen

\$1.50 per 100

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Please enter our order for the following:

Quantity	Title
—(PUT160)	As We Worship Together \$1.25 a hundred
—(PUT161)	As We Study the Bible Together \$1.25 a hundred
—(PUT162)	As We Live Together \$1.25 a hundred
—(PUT163)	As We Serve Thy Church Together \$1.25 a hundred
—(PUT164)	As We Face The World Together \$1.25 a hundred
—(PLS188)	Recognition Bookmark \$.60 a dozen
—(5858L)	Service Folder \$2.00 a hundred
—(858)	Rally Day Card 25¢ per doz., \$1.50 a hundred
—(1021)	Souvenir Tags 25¢ per doz., \$1.50 a hundred
—(525)	Metal Buttons 30¢ per doz., \$2.25 a hundred

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